United States Department of Labor Employees' Compensation Appeals Board

A.J., Appellant and DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS, VA MEDICAL CENTER, Battle Creek, MI, Employer))) Docket No. 22-0581) Issued: April 29, 2022))
Appearances: Alan J. Shapiro, Esq., for the appellant ¹ Office of Solicitor, for the Director	Case Submitted on the Record

ORDER DISMISSING APPEAL

Before:
ALEC J. KOROMILAS, Chief Judge
JANICE B. ASKIN, Judge
VALERIE D. EVANS-HARRELL, Alternate Judge

On March 10, 2022 appellant, through counsel, filed a timely appeal from a purported March 8, 2022 decision of the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs (OWCP). The Clerk of the Appellate Boards assigned Docket No. 22-0581.

In a letter dated and received April 7, 2022, counsel requested that the appeal be dismissed.

The Board has duly considered the matter and concludes that counsel's request for the dismissal of the appeal should be granted. Accordingly,

¹ In all cases in which a representative has been authorized in a matter before the Board, no claim for a fee for legal or other service performed on appeal before the Board is valid unless approved by the Board. 20 C.F.R. § 501.9(e). No contract for a stipulated fee or on a contingent fee basis will be approved by the Board. *Id.* An attorney or representative's collection of a fee without the Board's approval may constitute a misdemeanor, subject to fine or imprisonment for up to one year or both. *Id.*; see also 18 U.S.C. § 292. Demands for payment of fees to a representative, prior to approval by the Board, may be reported to appropriate authorities for investigation.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT appellant's request for the dismissal of the appeal is granted. The appeal docketed as No. 22-0581 is dismissed.

Issued: April 29, 2022 Washington, DC

> Alec J. Koromilas, Chief Judge Employees' Compensation Appeals Board

> Janice B. Askin, Judge Employees' Compensation Appeals Board

> Valerie D. Evans-Harrell, Alternate Judge Employees' Compensation Appeals Board